

FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA Cttee. NEWSLETTERS (Toronto)

*(** -- titles only, on file)*

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FPCC Newsletter—Summer 1962—V. Olson, editor, Toronto

FPCC Newsletter—Summer 1963

FPCC Newsletter—Summer 1966

THE CANADIAN FAIR PLAY

NEWSLETTER



Published by the Canadian FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA COMMITTEE,
Box 923, Adelaide St. P.O.
Toronto, Canada.
VOLUME I NUMBER 3
June 10, 1961

"CUBAN MIGS' MADE IN U.S.A.

JACK PAAR, a short while ago asked his TV audience how many of them had seen the big headlines SOVIET MIGS FIGHT OFF CUBAN INVASION. Most of the people present held up their hands. Paar continued by asking how many had seen Senator Wayne Morse's statement that the Russian MIGS that the Cuban government used to help thwart the recent Cuban invasion actually were U.S. planes sent by the USA to the old Batista regime. Morse said his Senate investigating sub-committee heard not a bit of evidence that there was a single soviet MIG in Cuba. Jack Paar asked how many people had read this statement. Only a few hands went up.

As Paar pointed out, it seems to be a sad fact that lies make big headlines, but the truth you find on page 25 in very small print. We from the FPCC agree. We don't need a so-called free press. What we need is an HONEST press.

What CASTRO really said

"Castro Rules Out Elections" were the headlines in most Canadian newspapers the day after Fidel Castro delivered his May Day speech. I searched the fine print in vain to find substantiation for this alarming headline. Actually Castro said nothing about elections that he has not already said many times. "These gentlemen speak of elections. What elections do they want?" he asked. "The false and prostituted elections that represent nothing but the proceedings by which the exploiting classes through their lawyers and their politicians maintain themselves in power, and with that power the whole regime of misery and hunger for the people?"

"There are many pseudo democracies in Latin America. What must be asked is how many laws have been passed in favor of the workers, how many laws in favor of the peasants, where is the agrarian reform, where is the nationalization of the mines, where is the nationalization of industry? This is what should be asked of them. The revolution," Castro declared, "is the direct expression of the will of the people, not an election every four years, but an election every day, a constant listening for the necessities, a genuine intimacy with the people, a constant meeting with the people, meetings like these....."

"The revolution knows and the people know that the revolution is the expression of its will...The revolution did not come to power with Yankee bazookas, nor with Yankee reckless cannon; the revolution came to power with the support of the people, by virtue of the sacrifices the people made, the struggles which the people made, the heroism of the people, struggling precisely against Yankee arms, tanks and cannon. Thus the revolution came to power with the whole support of the people."

"Why does democracy have to be the pedantic and false democracy of the dirty politicians and buyers of votes and not a democracy, instead, directly

What CASTRO- really said Continued . . .

expressing the will of the people, a democracy which they express a thousand times, every day, constantly, sacrificing their lives, not going to an electoral college to check off the name of a dirty politician but going to die as they went to die--the men of the people, the humble men of the people, the humble men of the people, fighting against the tanks and against the Yankee arms?

"The revolution has given to the people something more than a vote for each citizen...It has given a gun to each citizen, a cannon, an anti-aircraft gun, a bazooka, a powerful arm to each humble man of the people who has cared to join the militia.

Much has been said about the 1940 constitution which the revolution said it would bring back into force. Castro said: "To those who talk to us about the constitution of '40, we say that it is too antiquated and too old for us, that we have grown out of the 'scanty clothing' of the constitution of 1940, which was good for its epoch but which was not carried out, and which has now been superceded by the revolution, which we have said is a socialist revolution.

"We must speak of a new constitution--yes, of a new constitution- but not a bourgeois constitution, not a constitution corresponding to the rule of a class exploiting other classes, but corresponding to a new social system, without exploitation of man by man. This new social system is called socialism, and this constitution will be, consequently, a socialist constitution. If Mr. Kennedy doesn't like socialism, good. We don't like imperialism. We don't like capitalism. We have just as much right to protest the existence of an imperialist and capitalist regime 90 miles off our shores as they have to protest the existence of a socialist regime 90 miles off their shores."

Reiterating a position which has been taken on other occasions, Castro said that Cuba is "ready to discuss any of the other questions that do not affect our national sovereignty...Things that they wish to discuss of an economic order, of any kind; we are ready to discuss; because we offer this on the altar of peace in the world; we offer this in the interest of our people and of the American people themselves."

ALL THE CUBAN PEOPLE WANT IS TO BE LEFT IN PEACE AND TO BE PERMITTED TO DEVELOP THEIR REVOLUTION AS THEY THEMSELVES SEE FIT.

VERNEL OLSON,
CHAIRMAN.

NEW NATIONAL OFFICE

We are very pleased to announce the opening of a new office at -

648A YONGE STREET, OFFICE NUMBER 10, TORONTO 5, ONTARIO

All mail should be addressed to this address although we will retain the box number for some time.

This office will no doubt enable the FPCC to expand considerably its activity and to give you prompter service on your letters and enquiries. The new office also means of course that the members and friends of the committee all across the country will have to keep sending in those memberships and donations - our only means of support. The total cost for rent and telephone incidentally is only \$49.05 a month - we really tried to keep the financial drain at a minimum.

THE WORLD PROTESTS CUBAN INVASION

VANCOUVER, CANADA
A couple of hundred persons demonstrated. Labor Council supports Cuban People.

MONTREAL, CAN
Over 100 pickets circle U.S. Consulate.

TORONTO, CANADA
150 persons demonstrated in front of U.S. Consulate

WASHINGTON, D.C. USA
1200 protest in front of White House.

FRISCO, USA
2000 rally to Cubas' side.

MEXICO CITY
25,000 people in Constitution Square addressed by former Mexican President Lazaro Cardenas

MORELIA, MEXICO
The director of the U.S. Cultural Institute here reported an angry crowd wrecked the building.

CARACAS, VENEZUELA
Police used tear gas and rifles against several pro-Cuban rallies. The main one had 10,000 students in the centre of the city.

LA PAZ, BOLIVIA
3,000 people demonstrated shouting "Kennedy is a criminal".

CHILE
Labor Unions called a 24 hour general strike on April 19.

CONCEPTION, CHILE
U. S. Consulate was stoned.

NEW YORK CITY
5,000 participated in picket lines called by FPCC. On April 17, the day the invasion began, about 1,500 protesters marched from the UN to Times Square.

GUATEMALA
2,000 students protested use of Guatemala bases.

MARACAIBO, VENEZUELA
One person killed, 30 injured, 30 arrested in demonstration here.

BOGOTA, COLOMBIA
Main streets closed off because of fights between demonstrators and police who tried to break up pro-Cuban meetings.

SAO PAULO, BRAZIL
Students staged a rally described by the New York Times as "huge".

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA
Police used tear gas and clubs to break up pro-Cuban demonstration

TOKYO, JAPAN - Large demonstration by students

MOSCOW, USSR - 50,000 people demonstrated and trampled several policemen in pushing toward the building. They were mostly Russians of school age, but there were also large numbers of Asian and African students in the crowd.

SOFIA, BULGARIA - 3,000 persons demonstrated before U. S. Legation.

Western Speaking Tour

by Vernel Olson

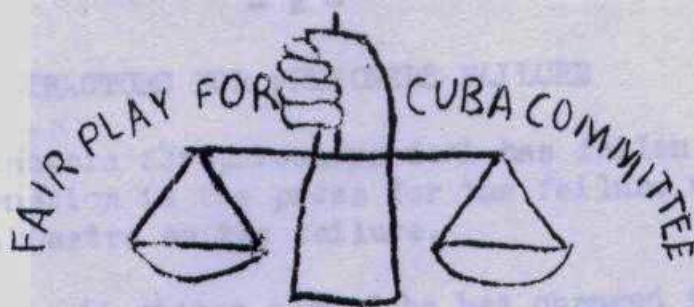
Winnipeg I arrived in Winnipeg on Thursday evening, May 4th, and was met at the airport by Prof. William Bedwell and Howard Pauley of the executive of the Winnipeg chapter of FPCC. A very successful meeting was held in the Playhouse Theatre on Friday evening, May 5th. Approximately 400 people were in attendance with about 15 prominent Winnipeg citizens on the platform. Chairman of the meeting was Prof. Bedwell. Also participating in the program was Fred Tipping, a retired schoolteacher; Andy Robertson school trustee in the city, Armand Cote of Woodsworth Society and Howard Pawley of the Manitoba CCF. While in the city I was interviewed on the CBC-TV station, by the Winnipeg Tribune and by the Winnipeg Free Press. The Winnipeg chapter is to be congratulated for its efforts. From the moment of arrival in Winnipeg, I had the feeling that I was in very efficient hands and that everything possible had been done to guarantee the success of the meeting. I left Winnipeg with the very definite impression that the Committee has struck firm roots in this very important Canadian city.

Regina I arrived in Regina at noon, Saturday May 6th and was met at the airport by Frank Hanson, Editor of the Saskatchewan COMMONWEALTH. The success of the Regina meeting on Saturday evening is attributable to Frank and the Committee which he brought together for the purpose of arranging this meeting. The public meeting was held at the Museum Auditorium and was attended by almost 200 people. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Lewis Thomas. Colored slides of Cuba by Jack Shapiro were shown at the end of the meeting. The Regina folks assured me that this was a very good meeting for this community. Besides the main meeting, I was given ten minutes at a New Party Seminar on Saturday afternoon and was invited to address the Sunday service of the Regina Unitarian Fellowship. The reception at all three gatherings was very inspiring indeed and indicated that the many years of CCF government in this province has generated a very broad climate of social understanding.

Edmonton On to Edmonton after addressing the Unitarian Fellowship to be met at the airport by Prof. Anthony Mardiros, of the Edmonton chapter of FPCC. A TV interview had been arranged with the local TV station shortly after my arrival. I spent the afternoon with Professor and Mrs. Mardiros and William Irvine. A public meeting was arranged for that evening in the Unitarian Church of Edmonton. The meeting, chaired by Prof. Mardiros was attended by about 125 people. A very interesting discussion period followed. This was considered to be a highly successful meeting by the Edmonton folks. Miss Valoree Smith of Calgary came up with a friend for the meeting. Valoree had been to Cuba at Easter time and told me that she had been invited to speak to the Knights of the Round Table in Calgary that following Tuesday. What Valoree didn't know, of course, was that she was to lose her job as a result of this invitation.

Vancouver The fourth and last stop was Vancouver. I was met at the airport by the secretary of the Vancouver chapter, Mrs. Ruth Bullock. The plane arrived just one hour before the meeting was scheduled. The meeting, attended by 60 people, was chaired by the local chapter chairman, Orville Braaten. On the platform also was Cedric Cox, MLA in the BC legislature. The Vancouver meeting was almost entirely working class in its composition and very receptive to the speaker's defence of the Cuban Revolution. An executive meeting was held with me on Tuesday evening prior to my return flight to Toronto and home.

The tour was completely self liquidating financially. The plane fare was met by contributions and the time was donated in the form of vacation with pay. All told, the tour was a well worthwhile effort. The centre is now acquainted with the key people in the local chapters.



NEWSLETTER

volume 1 number 4

Toronto July 22, 1961

MONTREAL REPORTS

A recent report from the "Amis Du Peuple Cubain - Fair Play For Cuba Committee" P. O. Box 1745 C. P. Station "B" (Quebec Section of the FPCC) announces that "Although the French section is not as strong as the English speaking one, nevertheless, the majority of our members are French. In addition, the first public meeting of the French section was held at the beginning of June and over 60 persons turned out, including some priests who had been in Cuba and were unsympathetic to recent charges. The meeting was a very lively one and the excitement generated speaks well for the successful future of this section."

A meeting was also held in Montreal with Mr. Robert Williams who spoke at the Toronto public meeting May 4th. Mr. Williams spoke in Montreal on the 5th.

The names of over 50 members of the Quebec Section have been sent into the National office. This is certainly evidence of great activity in the Montreal area, and very good news indeed. In addition, the Quebec section has now translated the FPCC pamphlet "A Catholic Speaks on Cuba" by Prof. Leslie Dewart, of St. Michaels College in Toronto. Recent sponsors of the FPCC in Quebec are Rev. L. Mason, minister of the Unitarian Congregation in Montreal and Mr. Michel Chartrand, Quebec leader of the Quebec New Party and leading Quebec trade union official. Mr. Chartrand marched in the demonstration of the FPCC before the American Consul at the time of the invasion of Cuba. CONGRATULATIONS QUEBEC.

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BLIND KIDDIES GET HELP FROM CNIB AND

STUDENTS IN HAVANA GET BOOKS FROM TORONTO STUDENTS

It is so easy to make a promise, especially at the airport, when the propellers are already going. You are so grateful for the hospitality you have received and you are so anxious to do something in return.

Well one of our members felt like this. The person who asked was a special teacher of blind children in Havana. Her name was Gladys Bueno and she asked for a Braille typewriter urgently needed by the blind children.

After returning to Toronto our member mentioned the request and FPCC went into action. A letter was sent to the Canadian National Institute for the Blind requesting the typewriter and explaining the circumstances. Realizing that the Institute has coped with bigger problems than this, we were very hopeful that we would get their co-operation. We were not disappointed.

We are very grateful for the donation and most happy to be able to lend a helping hand to the blind children of Cuba.

Another member returned from Cuba and reported a severe shortage of textbooks amongst University students. He approached the students of the University of Toronto and their Students Administrative Council responded with a donation of approximately 750 books. The Toronto FPCC members boxed them and Cubana airlines shipped them free of charge. The response of the Students Council was very encouraging and other chapters might consider approaching universities in their area in the fall. In particular demand are engineering texts.

TRACTORS FOR PRISONERS FAILURE

The much publicized tractors for prisoners deal has fallen through. Because there was little explanation in the press for the failure we reproduce below the statement of Fidel Castro on the failure.

"Your committee lies when it states that Cuba has changed its original proposal. This is a trick on your part to confuse American public opinion and the relatives of the prisoners. The Cuban government indicated from the very start the amount and type of equipment which it claims as indemnification for the material damage caused by the imperialistic invasion. It was also explained to you very clearly by the delegation of prisoners and was repeated to the committee of technicians which came to Havana. We explained to them that although we were prepared to accept smaller equipment, its value would have to be equivalent to the total amount of the 500 super D-8's with corresponding parts and replacements indicated by us as adequate indemnification.

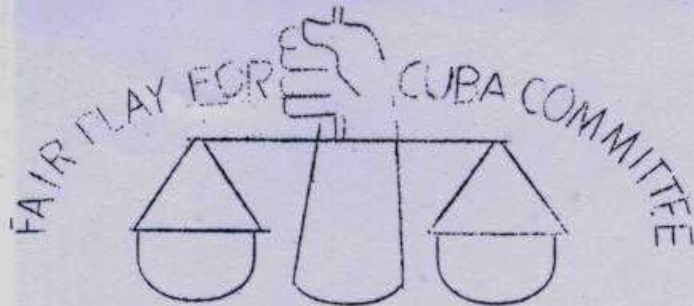
"In addition, the Cuban government has repeatedly declared that Cuba was prepared to renounce material indemnification if your committee took steps to obtain the freedom of an equal number of American, Spanish, Puerto Rican, Nicaraguan and Guatemalan prisoners incarcerated for struggling against fascism, racism, despotism, colonialism and imperialism. Neither your committee nor the government of the United States, under whose auspices it was formed, have attempted to solve the problem in any way. While your committee talks of human motives it has refused to make the slightest representation to the government of the United States, Spain, Puerto Rico, Guatemala and Nicaragua on behalf of men like Albizu Campos and Henry Winston who have been ill and in jail for many years. While you speak of your interest in the standard of living of the Cuban people, you seek to have Cuba accept the ridiculous offer of tractors whose potential and value do not compensate for even a small part of the damage caused by the criminal and cowardly invasion against Cuba organized by the United States government which is also responsible for a series of economic and political aggressions designed to engulf our people in hunger and misery.

"The government of Cuba delivered to your committee through the commission of technicians the list of 1,197 invaders it is holding. In that list are not included 18 prisoners who, because they were drafted by force by the aggressors on Cuban national territory, could not be considered prisoners and were exonerated of responsibility. It is insolent and a lack of respect on the part of your committee to cast doubt on the authenticity of the list and of the data supplied. If we accepted the officers of your committee, it was because we assumed that the presence of Mrs. Roosevelt and other persons was a guarantee of decency and seriousness in the negotiations. The committee of technicians sent by you was received and treated very respectfully in Cuba. Our attitude has not been reciprocated by you. The only purpose of the last cable of your committee is to break off negotiations and blame the Cuban government for it. The responsibility is exclusively yours. The revolutionary government will authorize the delegation of prisoners to go to the United States again and explain the facts to the American people."

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TORONTO CHAPTER INAUGURATES SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIPS

In a discussion of a financial report on the National Committee a member suggested that one way to meet the expenses of mailings, office space, telephone bills etc. was by promoting sustaining memberships. She suggested that members make a pledge of a small donation each month to supplement the income the office receives from memberships. She then proceeded to make a donation of \$15. covering her first three months pledge. WE NEED MONEY. For those who have memberships consider the idea of a monthly pledge. For those who haven't taken out a membership do so immediately. We can only operate with your support.



648 A Yonge Street

Toronto, October, 1961.

On Wednesday, September 6, 1961, Robert F. Williams, well known to FPCC supporters in Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal where he addressed meetings of the Committee, was the object of an intensive manhunt by the RCMP. The Toronto Telegram carried a front page photo and article headed "Hunt Castro Friend On Kidnap Charges". The report reads in part: "A Negro who addressed the Fair Play for Cuba Committee in Toronto is being sought by the FBI and the RCMP on two counts of kidnapping. He is thought to be armed. The wanted man is Robert Franklin Williams, 36, who sports what the Mounties describe as 'a shorter version of the Castro beard'. An RCMP circular on Williams says he may be armed with a .45-calibre pistol and a large supply of ammunition. The Mounties were asked to assist the FBI in the case because the U.S. authorities believe he may have come to Canada to try to arrange passage to Cuba. Kidnapping warrants have been issued in Monroe, N.C., following the abduction at gunpoint of an American couple who were held for about two hours. Williams is described as dangerous and anyone having information is asked to communicate with the RCMP or police. A declared Castro supporter, Williams has addressed Fair Play for Cuba groups in Toronto, Montreal, and Vancouver."

Those who know Williams, or have heard him speak, will be shocked to hear him described as a common criminal. In the process also, the committee is placed in a very bad light. For this reason, we have decided to supply our members and supporters with some facts on the case. We are pleased to publish Williams' account of the "kidnapping". So far, only the Monroe police accounts of the story have received publicity in the daily press, but anyone only vaguely familiar with Southern "justice" in regards to Negroes knows that a police version of charges against a Negro leaves much to be desired. This is particularly true of a militant fighter for Negro rights in a Klan-ridden town like Monroe, N.C.

The FPCC does not apologize for its association with Robert Williams. On the contrary, we call upon our supporters to help the victims of racist oppression in Monroe - four youth who were friends of Williams have been arrested on the same trumped-up charge and face life imprisonment at the hands of an all-white racist court in North Carolina. A committee has been formed in Toronto to assist the work of the New York "Committee to Aid the Monroe Defendants" headed by Dr. A. E. Perry of Monroe and Williams' lawyer, Conrad Lynn, a well known civil liberties attorney in the New York area.

The secretary of the Toronto committee is Vernel Olson, 21 Ellis Gardens, Toronto 3, Ontario. A considerable amount of material on the case is already available and will be distributed by the committee. To do this, funds will be needed. There will be no overhead expenses and all money left over after mailing costs will be donated to the New York defence committee, headed by Dr. Perry.

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On Friday September 29th the CBC reported in its news broadcast that Robert F. Williams was now in Cuba. Foreign correspondents were invited to a press conference held for him there.

CBC Quashes \$40,000 Cuba Documentary

CBC President Cuimet and program vice-president Hallman have withdrawn CBC's first contribution to international T.V, an hour-long documentary on Cuba by Eugene Lawrence on the grounds that "it gave a one-sided picture of events in Cuba" and "it might offend U.S. public opinion". One is tempted to ask Mr. Hallman whether he feels any responsibility to the Canadian public or is he just responsible to certain interest groups in the U. S. In a sudden burst of 'objectivity' Mr. Hallman felt that the film presented a too favourable portrait of Cuba but he did not say it was a misrepresentation or insincere. He was not interested in 'truth', just satisfying powerful interests even if he had to insult the intelligence of the Canadian public, the integrity of Canadian artists, and make CBC an object of world ridicule to do it.

We think all members and friends of Fair Play would be doing the Canadian people a service by launching a letter writing and phone calling campaign to all CBC offices demanding that this film be shown without delay.

Write: Vice-president, E. Hallman, CBC, Box 806, Ottawa;

or

Phone: CBC in Toronto, WA-5-3311

VISITORS TO CUBA REPORT TO MEETINGS

A group of British Columbian Trade Unionists were invited to attend the 26th of July celebrations in Cuba by the CTC, the Cuban Trade Union Congress.

Angus MacPhee, secretary of the Prince Rupert Labour Council and a CCF candidate last provincial election spoke to the Prince Rupert Rotary Club on his return and two articles of his appeared in the Prince Rupert Daily News.

Jerry Lebourdais, president of Local 16-601 of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union had to interrupt his visit to attend the New Democratic Party Convention in Ottawa but returned to Cuba to complete his visit.

MacPhee and Lebourdais were accompanied by Bob McCormick, president of the Ocean Falls local of Pulp and Sulphite, Lorne Robinson, executive board member of the Vancouver Carpenters Union, and Al King, president of the B. C. District Union of Mine Mill.

Charles Biesick, one time editor of the Manitoba CCF Commonwealth and an activist in the Manitoba CCF NP and the railway unions also visited Cuba this summer. So far he has had one article in the Saskatchewan Commonwealth on his impressions. We understand he is going to address a Winnipeg meeting of Fair Play.

Vernel Olson reported on his visit at the end of July to meetings in Cleveland and Toronto. This weekend he will be speaking in Windsor and Detroit. His report to the Toronto meeting was supplemented by a report from Mr. & Mrs. G. Bryant who spent the summer in Cuba.

MONTREAL CHAPTER VERY ACTIVE

The French-speaking Quebec Section of Fair Play "Amis de Peuples Cubains" which is centered in Montreal is now putting out its second edition of Fair Play's French bulletin. They held an extremely successful weekend this summer in the Laurentians which was attended by about 70 people. Last weekend the English and French groups in Montreal held a joint executive meeting which the national Chairman, Vernel Olson attended.

NEWS FROM YOU ?

We would like to publish the activities of your chapter in this bulletin. We can only do so if we receive reports. Please forward the article to the office marked clearly "To be published in the bulletin".

QUALIFIED TEACHERS NEEDED

We have received a request from the University of Santiago de Cuba to publicize their need for instructors in the technical and scientific fields. They would prefer university personnel but will accept High School teachers for instruction of first year university students. If you are in this category or know someone who is and might be interested please let us know.

TORONTO ELECTS EXECUTIVE

Toronto chapter held elections last month for a Toronto executive separate from the national executive. A chairman and ten executive members were chosen. Slides were shown at the close of the meeting.

Toronto chapter has been pushing sales of literature recently. At the labour day parade 30 items were sold and 75 copies of 'Castro Speaks on Unemployment' have been sold in front of the Unemployment Commission Offices.

A group is being formed on the University of Toronto campus by one of the new executive members, a University student.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION

The chairman Vernel Olson announced at a Toronto meeting that the national executive is drawing up a constitution for Fair Play. This will be sent shortly to all chapters for discussion, amendment, and adoption. It will propose the choosing of a National Advisory Council across the country and the selection by all chapters of a national executive resident in Toronto to carry out the wishes of the Council.

What Is The State Of Our Civil Liberties?

Some months ago we published an account of Valeree Smith speaking to a businessmen's group after her return from Cuba. She was dismissed from her job for speaking favourably about Cuba. We have been told by a Toronto member that Valeree is still out of work. Apparently the Canadian Bill of Rights can only be enforced where there is supporting legislation from the province. There is no such supporting legislation in Alberta.

The Cuban Story by Veteran New York Timesman, Herbert Matthews (Braziller) U. S. price - \$4.50. Matthews' admiration for Castro began when he interviewed him in Oriente Province in February 1957 when the world thought Castro was dead and his rebel movement aborted. In an attack on the book and on Matthews Time magazine (October 6 - Page 75) quotes from the book. "Let me repeat that I am not making a moral judgment in saying that given the problems he faced, internally and externally, given the character of the Cuban people, and given his determination to make a radical, social revolution, Fidel came up with a logical answer." And further "Historians will have to ask themselves how much the American attitude and policies helped to force Fidel Castro in this direction."

from MACLEAN'S

The following is a translation of an article which appeared in the French edition of MACLEANS Magazine. We think that the supporters of the FPCC will be interested in reading it in the English. We hope MACLEANS will be encouraged to publish the article in their English magazine.

In Miami, at the Pan American office, I have to tell the reasons of my trip to Cuba, how long I will be staying there. I have to be at the plane one hour before the flight, for the baggage must be searched thoroughly. "Last week, we had quite a scare..." they say, possibility of sabotage. Local papers talk about the regime of terror in Cuba, particularly since the attempted invasion.

The passengers on the plane are mainly Cubans going back to their country. Beside me, a youth of 17. His father is a railway employee, his mother works for the Commission of Alphabetization in Varadero. He was adopted by a rich American family, but decided to go back to Cuba to give a hand to the revolution. I thought at the time that he must be an exceptional young man, but later on, I had to recognize the same enthusiasm in a vast sector of the Cuban youth.

At the airport, I meet Cuban friends and we stop for lunch in a small restaurant of the industrial suburb of Havana. The restaurant is full of workers. At least twenty of them are militia men and carry a small machine gun. They are workers like the others, they carry a weapon because it is their day of duty. Right from the start, I am in contact with one of the most typical aspects of this revolution. Castro eliminated immediately the traditional army, symbol of domination and oppression. He kept his army of rebels, to have a disciplined force in order to build, to work in the administration, on the farms. But he did not want to be supported by the army, even his own army of rebels. He created the popular militia; peasants, workers, civic employees, professionals. The militia recruits its members on a voluntary basis. They are given a rifle, they are taught how to use it and each member buys its own uniform. The active army made of more specialized army people is of 400,000 members, the army of reserve around 1,000,000. In creating a militia rooted in the people, Castro made stronger the tie between the people and the regime. If, on the contrary Castro had found support in his rebel army, he would have lost part of this army, because who wants to sacrifice his freedom after the victory? A lot of his supporters would have become disinterested in the huge task of the revolution. The participation of the most prominent people in the Government in the militia work is maintaining the contact between the people and its Government. I saw functionaries of the Education Ministry, a judge of the Supreme Court, a director of the National Institute of Agrarian Reform and many others wearing their uniform and doing their duty of militia men.

This type of organization brings to the masses the impression of living in a true democracy and to the opponents of the revolution a terrible feeling of impotency.

EDUCATION

The Agrarian Reform, the creation of the militia, the educational program, the industrialization are the four pillars of the revolution. In order to relieve the misery of the peasants, the ... 4

the revolution had to put an end to the one crop system which was maintaining Cuba in complete dependance of the U.S. INRA has the task of raising the standard of living of the peasants, increasing the productivity of the land, diversifying the cultures, preparing the road for industrialization. Based upon the Agrarian Reform and on industrialization, defended by the popular militia, the Cuban revolution goes deep in the people's feelings, due to the tremendous work done in the field of education.

In the course of 60 years, before the revolution, the State had founded 182 public schools in the country and 976 in the cities. Castro in two years created 609 rural schools and 2,060 urban schools. The number of pupils increased from 602,198 to 1,117,271.

On all levels of education, there is a splendid effort made. In going through the country, I could see that the statistics given to me at the Education Ministry were not invented by the propaganda machine. I saw hundreds of new schools without searching for them. Moreover, the educators find the time and the means to apply new methods in the new schools. The best example of this kind of effort is the establishment of the School Centre of Camilo Cienfuegos in the Oriente mountains. Peasants' children are being boarded and educated there up to college education. The teachers use the method of Celestin Freinet which consists in teaching how to read by using type letters. The children learn how to read, printing a newspaper. They do a lot of handicraft work like ceramic, carpentry, they look after the maintenance of the classrooms themselves, they take care of their gardens, help each other at the cafeterias under the ruling of a civic council elected by them. This kind of school set up is going to be applied wherever the children are too far from any community to be able to attend school.

The most intensive work is done in the field of alphabetization. On the splendid beaches once used by the millionnaires, 8,000 young boys and girls are following an intensive training in the method of teaching how to read and write in four months. Once the training period is over, these youths are going to go deep into the countryside, work in the fields with the peasants, live with them, teach them.

The Revolution Consolidated

The Cuban Revolution was implacable towards the rich proprietors and a certain sector of the petty bourgeois class, this explains the constant emigration of hundreds of Cubans to the US. But in spite of the virulent anti-revolutionary elements and the opposition of the U. S., the regime is firmly established. Looking back towards the previous revolutionary experiences, the leaders of the Cuban revolution took the lessons of the past. They refused to compromise with the big owners and their American masters. The new Governments attached the fundamental problems: agriculture, industry, education. The leaders, by their competent action gave immediate material advantages to the people, increasing salaries, taking social welfare measures. 25,000 cheap apartment buildings were built within a short period, telephone and electricity tariffs were reduced 50%, scholarships are given generously to students, schools are springing up everywhere, summer resorts are built where Cubans can take nice holidays at a very low cost. State farms and cooperatives provide peasants with good housing. The state stores, about 2,000 of them provide goods at the cheapest possible price. These are advantages the Cubans are prepared to defend at the cost of their life. Patria O Muerte.

The Cubans say: "We love Fidel". This love so general and so great for a man might be a little suspicious to us, specially as the American propaganda gives us of Castro a picture of a megalomaniac and a great talker. Castro is not so. He is a flying Prime Minister, circulating by helicopter all over the island. People meet him only for business or by chance. One day, I attended a meeting on the University campus where he spoke. We waited an hour and a half. I was getting irritated thinking how Hitler always provided a waiting period to the crowd in order to excite it. Castro came at last, very calm. The students were yelling: Fidel! Fidel! Fidel! He talked about his program of education. For an hour, people listened silently. Then, Castro announced 40,000 scholarships for college students. This was welcomed by a thunder of applause and great excitement. The students were to be lodged in the houses abandoned by the exiled Cubans. He advised the youths to orient themselves as much as possible towards Sciences rather than towards the traditional fields of Law and Literature. Then he started on asking questions to his audience. "How many of you are working for a living while studying?" Many hands went up. "I am a typist" answered a girl. "We have too many typists. We need teachers. You can

teach". Everyone had a problem to submit to Fidel. Suddenly Castro says: Friends, the forum is over. So long. He disappeared within a few seconds.

Fidel had spoken four hours, with the only preoccupation of explaining each point in detail, open to what the audience had to say. This openmindedness is one of the main features of Castro. He knows how to listen, he takes into account what people say. I heard speeches from him to mothers, peasants, workers, alphabetizers. His speeches are courses, lengthy explanations of the Government's policies. The listeners stand for hours without signs of fatigue, some of them holding sleeping children in their arms, participating in the discussion, laughing at times. In spite of his enormous prestige and his almost legendary past, he does not seem to be the top of a hierarchy. He always addresses people on an equal footing. Fidel is a friend whom we are proud of, for whom we have respect, affection, with whom we wish to work.

Fidelism will survive Fidel. What about communism in Cuba? The Cuban revolution is a challenge to any theory, is defying all dogmas, any attempt to categorize according to accepted revolutionary standards. The Cubans did not do the revolution following a theory, but in order to transform reality according to the good of the people. Their political thought evolves according to the events.

A journalist asked a peasant: "They say that this regime is Communist. What do you think of that?" The peasant answered, pointing to a building of the cooperative where he worked: "I don't know what is Communism, but if this is Communism, I am a Communist."

I met a few intellectuals who were never Communists and never forgot that at the beginning of the revolution, the Communist party was opposed to it. "Now that they want to cooperate, they can work with us. If we refused their cooperation, it would mean that we fear them, but we don't."

The Cuban revolution inscribes itself among the great revolutions of the 20th century. Its ties with the Soviet block are only due to the fact that the Cubans need help and the West does not give it. The Cuban revolution is not copying any other revolution; it is an original phenomenon. It is an object of hatred for the US, a cause of scandal for certain European Communists and of worry for some South American Communists.

I met delegates of Eastern Germany who were qualifying the Cuban revolution as "childish". I met South American Communists who were worrying about its influence in South America. They are for legal action and they fear that the Cuban example incite their compatriots to seek freedom through an insurrection of the armed peasants. Cuba, in fact, becomes the rallying point of all the South American anti-imperialist elements. In the light of what was just said, the U. S. could be without any fear, if only they had as sole enemies in the Western world, the Communists.

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* We have just received Volume 1, No. 1 of a very well produced magazine entitled Weekly News from Cuba, put out by the Press and Information Department of the Cuban Ministry of Foreign Relations. For all of us ordinary bi-lingual Canadians who have wanted facts and figures on Cuba, this is a very important event indeed. The Magazine is in English. We are certainly indebted to anyone and everyone who is associated in the production of this magazine, for it fills a long standing gap. We haven't had a chance to read it yet but the first article is on the training of new teachers with statistical data on the campaign against illiteracy. There is Castro's speech to the First National Congress of Writers and Artists, a report by Guevara on the Inter-American Economic and Social Conference in Uruguay, and other material on the planning of the economy. Our copy has no price on it but 25¢ should cover the cost. Send in for your copy right away.

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We have also received some beautiful stickers for car windows - $5\frac{3}{4}$ x $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in size. They are a blue rectangle with the island of Cuba outlined, and imposed on that, the words "The World with Cuba and Cuba with the World." At the side is a reproduction of one of Pablo Picasso's peace doves.

Write in for yours and a friend's.

(6)



FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA
COMMITTEE

Box 923, Adelaide St. P.O.
Toronto

V. Olson - Editor - 648a Yonge St., Toronto - Summer, 1962

BERTRAND RUSSELL ASSAILS U.S. THREATS AGAINST CUBA

The hysteria which has been created in the U.S. relating to the Cuban Revolution is a grave danger for the peace of the world. The ones responsible for the creation of that psychosis ought to attentively consider if they will always be in positions of power to control it. Already the U.S. supported an invasion of Cuba which was destroyed because the great majority of the Cuban people decidedly defended the government of Dr. Fidel Castro. It appears possible, moreover, that the U. S. contemplates a plan of imposing on the Cuban people a regime that is against their wishes.

The problem before the world today is grave and inescapable. Ought the nations of the world be permitted to settle their disputes by means of war, which inevitably leads to a nuclear holocaust which would destroy humanity; or ought

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DR. FIDEL CASTRO

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all the nations together
renounce war? An attack
by the U.S. on Cuba could
lead to a nuclear war and
for this reason, if for no
other, one must oppose it
resolutely. No state has
a right to dictate to
Cuba or to any other

nation, how to direct its own affairs, Cuba, at last, after half a century of North American domination, is in a condition to build homes and schools, to encourage education and culture, to abolish poverty and disease and human misery. The Cuban Revolution deserves confidence and encouragement and not blind hostility.

The vast corporations such as United Fruit are afraid of losing a lucrative empire in Latin America. The military-industrial combination continually needs armaments and preparations for war if they are to preserve their position, their power, and their profits.

Those forces in the U.S. with their paid liars --scientific, industrial, or congressional-- have created a pathological hatred against the Cuban Revolution, which constitutes a grave threat to the independence of Cuba and a grave threat to world peace.

I appeal to the government of the U.S. to let Cuba resolve its own problems without interference. I appeal to the people of the United States to pay no attention to the hysterical speeches of their leaders. I appeal to the governments and the peoples of Latin America to inflexibly reject any measure against the Cuban Revolution. Cuba is an independent and sovereign nation with its inalienable right to resolve its problems as best pleases it.

An action by the U.S. against Cuba could lead to a nuclear war. Such a war would destroy civilization and perhaps all the human race. Let us remember our humanity and let us forget the rest.

from Revolucion

February 15, 1962.

The Revolution, a School of Unfettered Thought

The following are excerpts from a speech delivered on March 13 by Fidel Castro to a University of Havana meeting, commemorating the 5th anniversary of the unsuccessful student attack on Batista's palace. Dr. Castro underlines the importance of an intellectually free and honest approach to the revolution and revolutionary theories, and urges the students to be revolutionaries worthy of the sacrifices which the Cuban people are making to ensure them education. His ringing declaration that the Cuban Revolution must deepen democracy not restrict it, explodes the U. S. State Department's lies that the Cuban regime is totalitarian.

Dr. Castro states that the Cubans are now remembering the fallen in the most appropriate manner - "with the befitting presence of the sons and daughters of the workers, of the humble, of the masses from the countryside."

"And the hopes of the revolution are entrusted to this youth. To this youth are entrusted the most genuine hopes of our people. And to this youth are also entrusted the most genuine and most human hopes of us, the revolutionists, of all the revolutionists. And this youth must be spoken to, this youth must be encouraged, this youth must be educated. They must be orientated, they must be forged. This youth must become what we all dreamed for the future. This youth must become what we all hope the people of tomorrow, the country's new generations, will be. This youth must become what all of us would have wanted to be, to lead the lives that all of us would have wanted to live. In short, with this youth the future must be built.

And what type of youth do we want? Do we, perhaps, want a youth which will simply limit itself to listening to and parroting what we say? No! We want a youth which will think. Perhaps a youth which will be revolutionary just to imitate us? No! Rather a youth which will learn to be revolutionary of its own accord. A youth which will convince itself. A youth which will fully develop its own thinking."

He goes on to speak of the importance of correct example, and of conviction in one's own ideas, to the revolution.

"I am going to make a criticism here tonight of an occurrence which appears to be minor but which we should nevertheless analyze and criticise and we are going to analyze it publicly. We have here before us tonight an example which is going to serve as a lesson to us and which is going to serve so that we may make a revolutionary analysis."

He continues: "The master of ceremonies read to you, among other documents, the political testament of Jose Antonio Echevarria

"And he began to read it. He read the first paragraph. He read the second paragraph. He began to read the third paragraph and when he was at the end of the third paragraph we noticed that without reading three lines he skipped to the fourth paragraph. Listen, compareros, do not be hasty to pass judgement, nor even to blame the companero .

And it seemed to us that he had skipped. And out of curiosity we read that part since he had skipped it. And it says - I am going to read the third paragraph - Our pledge to the people of Cuba

was given in La Carta de Mexico which united the youth in one line of conduct and action. But the circumstances needed for the student sector to fulfill the role assigned to it were not present at the right moment, forcing us to postpone the fulfillment of our pledge." From there he skips..."If we fall may our blood..."--and I read the three lines which are: "We believe that the time has come for us to fulfill our pledge. We are confident that the purity of our intentions will bring us God's blessing so that we may bring the rule of justice to our nation."

Dr. Castro comments that he asked the master of ceremonies when he had finished reading about the omission. The companero replied: "When I entered I was given instructions. I told them that I

BC NDP YOUTH CHEER—

A union hall in Vancouver's North Shore rang with cheers as the Cuban people, on film, beat back the last of the American invaders.

But the audience was not really bloodthirsty. It was composed of excited and enthusiastic young people, members of the B.C. New Democratic Youth; who had come to see films and hear a commentary on the progress of the Cuban Revolution and on the Latin American situation.

The NDY in Vancouver has shown a keen concern for the welfare of the Cuban revolution. Several of the clubs have invited Ken Orchard, a young worker recently returned from Cuba, to speak to them and show them slides or films... about 50 attended the North Shore meeting, sponsored by the NDY there, many others attended a meeting in the NDY Hillcrest hall, and a similar one in Richmond, also sponsored by the NDY.

The spirited response and the eager questions of these young and active socialists revealed the depth of their sympathy with the Cuban people, and their joy in the victory of this tiny island over the forces of imperialism.

was going to read this and they told me to take out these three lines."

Is it possible, compañeros? Let us analyze it. Compañeros, could we be so cowardly, and could we be so intellectually warped, as to come here to read the political testament of Jose Antonio Echevarria and be so cowardly, so morally wretched, as to suppress three lines? Just because these three lines are an idiomatic expression or Jose Antonio Echevarria's way of thinking which we have no business analyzing?

Are we going to mutilate what he wrote? Are we going to mutilate what he believed? And are we going to feel crushed merely by what he believed or thought in the matter of religion? What kind of faith is that in one's own ideas? What concept is that of history? And how can history be conceived in such a wretched manner? How can history be conceived as something dead? As something putrid? As an immovable stone?

Could such cowardice be called a dialectical concept of history? Could such a manner of thinking be called Marxism? Could such a fraud be called socialism? Could such a deception be called communism? No!

Dr. Castro declared that if the criteria of quoting only ideas corresponding to one's own level of political consciousness were followed, one would have to suppress the ideas of all the founders of the American republics who were influenced by the bourgeois ideology of the French Revolution.

Then we would have to suppress Marti's works because Marti was not a Marxist-Leninist, because

Marti responded to the revolutionary thought proper to our nation at that time. If Marxism-Leninism is the ideology of the working class when that class emerges and, conscious of itself, flings itself into the struggle for its emancipation, how could we expect Marxism-Leninism to be the ideology when the task before a country, the task before Latin America at the time of independence, and the task before our nation, were national tasks, tasks of a different kind, of another type, corresponding to the development of our nation at that specific moment?

If we followed that line of thinking we would have to destroy the concept of the revolutionist from Spartacus to Marti. As a result of that short sighted, sectarian, stupid and warped concept, which denies history and denies Marxism, we would be forced to deny all values, all history. We would be forced to deny our very roots; when all that treasure of human progress, of human effort, of human sacrifice, should be gathered up and added to our nation's beautiful history and to the beautiful history of a mankind which is progressing, which has progressed from the beginning, which is progressing and will continue to progress more and more...

That he invoked his religious beliefs-- if this phrase is an expression of that sentiment--does not detract from Jose Antonio Echevarria's heroism. It detracts nothing from his greatness, nothing from his glory. For it was the expression of the revolutionary sentiment of the university youth, of the generous sentiments of that youth, speaking through one of its most courageous leaders, that produced such a serene and selfless testament, such a serene and generous testament, as of one who was almost certain that he was going to die. Through those efforts, through that sacrifice, through the commingling of all that generous blood, of that

rebel blood, that heroic blood, in which was blended the desire for freedom of all the youth from Mella to Jose Antonio Echeverria. With Mella's blood and with Jose Antonio Echevarria's blood and with the blood of many like them, the nations history was written. And the greatness of the revolution consists in knowing how to unite all that effort, all that blood, to make the revolution and to carry it forward.

How can we face our enemies with integrity while playing tricks like these? The fact that the counter-revolutionaries have tried to use this phrase in their attempt to present Jose Antonio Echevarria as a representative of their thinking, that is, the thinking of the counter-revolutionaries, the fact that they have tried to use this phrase to fight against the revolution, to fight Marxism, the fact that the counter-revolutionaries with the hypocrisy and moral feebleness which characterizes them should act in this fashion, is understandable. But that we, revolutionists and Marxists, should for that reason suppress that phrase, is not understandable.

It is known that a revolutionist may hold a religious belief. He may hold it. The revolution does not force anyone. It does not go into his heart of hearts. It does not exclude the men who love their country, the men who want justice to exist in their country, justice which will put an end to exploitation, abuse and odious imperialist domination. It does not force them. Nor does it hold them in disgrace simply because they may have in their heart of hearts some religious belief.

Throughout history, the exploiters have used religion as a counter-revolutionary weapon, Dr. Castro pointed out. Even the criminals who came to Playa Giron brought with them four priests, he said.

"But what fault is this of any good Catholic, a sincere Catholic, who may be a member of the militia, who supports the revolution, who is against imperialism, who is against illiteracy, who is against the exploitation of man by man, who is against all social injustices? What fault is this of his?

Very well now. We write a revolutionary document. We publish it in several different languages. All the people support it. More than a million citizens, who are present when it is read, vote for it. It creates an extraordinary impression in Latin America. And what do we say? We say that in the struggle for national liberation, in the struggle against imperialism, all progressive elements, all patriotic elements, should be united and that in that front there should be not only the sincere Catholic, who has nothing to do with imperialism or with latifundismo, but also the old Marxist fighter.

We declare this to the whole world and we come here with an unheard of display of cowardice to delete from the testament of a companero the invocation he made of God's name. While on the one hand we tell them that they have to unite, and that if they are patriotic and revolutionary in the fight against latifundismo and exploitation, no obstacle is posed by the fact that one is a believer. That one has a religion, is a Christian or any other - and that other may be a Marxist, putting his faith in Marxist philosophy - that that is not an obstacle: and we come here with this display of cowardice to suppress a phrase. This could not be overlooked. Because what is this? A symptom! A wretched tendency-cowardly, warped - of someone who does not have faith in Marxism, of one who does not have faith in the revolution, of one who does not have faith in his ideas. . . .

Into what is the revolution changed by this? Into a tyranny! And that is not revolution! Into what is the revolution changed? Into a school of docile spirits! And that is not the revolution! And what must the revolution be? The revolution must be a school of revolutionists! The revolution must be a school of courageous men! The revolution must be a school of unfettered thought!

The revolution must be a forger of character and of men. The revolution above all must be faith in one's own ideas, application of one's ideas to the reality of history and to the reality of life. The revolution has to induce men to study, to think, to analyze in order to possess profound conviction, so profound that there will be no need to have recourse to such tricks.

For if we constantly speak of this, it is because we have faith in the people, because we believe in revolutionary ideas, because we know

FAIR PLAY FIESTA

Toronto - Fiesta de Cuba, that's what the Toronto chapter of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee called its social evening of May 12 at the Co-op Hall.

Toronto chapter organizer Bob Horn emceed the program that featured a twist dancing contest and a poetry reading by Gwen MacEwen Acorn. Mrs. Acorn, one of Canada's prominent younger poets, gave a reading of several of Pablo Neruda's poems followed up by several of her own more recent works.

The hall was decorated with Cuban streamers and flags while on the walls were reproductions of woodcuts that had just arrived from Cuba. With powerful lines and images they portrayed the Cuban peoples' struggles against imperialism and their efforts to build a new society as an example to the peoples of Latin America. While the musicians rested the crowd discussed to the strains of a new recording of Cuban marching songs.

that our people are a revolutionary people, and because we know that our people will be more revolutionary each day, because we believe in Marxism-Leninism, because we believe that Marxism-Leninism is an undeniable truth. It is simply because of this, because we have faith in our ideas and in the people that we are not so cowardly as to be able to accept such a thing.

We are sincerely sorry for the person who is responsible for this, but he should make a thorough self-criticism. How can we, in the presence of a new generation, a generation which is beginning to study, which is thirsting for knowledge, which is thirsting to read, which is thirsting to embark on the study of history, which is thirsting to embark on the study of Marxism, how can we put on that generation blinders so large that we will not permit them to read the full text of a historical document of a companion of the revolution, a companion who, like Marti, Maceo, Mella and Guiteras, made history and who step by step prepared the way of the nation?"

Dr. Castro continued by saying that the revolution was not imposed upon the people; that it proceeded step by step, and that we are today at an advanced stage of history because we built upon the first humble steps of our first patriots. The revolution, he stated, is not made by yelling sectarian slogans. ...

"It is the people; it is the revolution itself with its accomplishments, with its struggles, with its proofs which has been convincing this people which has an extraordinary political sensitivity. And it has turned this people into one of the most advanced of the present day; into one with an extraordinary revolutionary spirit...."

"This notwithstanding", he continued. "we believe that a greater Marxist spirit must be created and that in the youth-above all-something more than a socialist spirit must be created; a communist spirit must be created... Therefore, "Castro said, he believed that the Rebel Youth Organization should be given the name of Communist Youth, rather than Socialist Youth.

"Now, why should we do so? Why? Simply because we must distinguish between socialism and communism. First of all it must be clearly understood that social systems cannot be imposed, that they must be built upon definite bases. And we are constructing the bases of socialism. We are marching towards socialism. We are not yet at the stage of socialism. The revolution is socialist. We are socialists but we are building socialism. The society itself is not socialist although the majority of the people may be so.

What do you think of that? This is so because there are still many traces of the capitalist past and we are now engaged in constructing socialism. The present generation is living through that stage of the construction of socialism and it is logical that the party of the revolution should be called the United Party of the Socialist Revolution, because we are constructing socialism. But not the youth, the youth constitutes the future generation; a generation which should live at a more advanced stage - not in socialism but in communism.

And this simply means - anyone can understand this - that the future generations must be prepared for the society of the future; that we must now begin to forge the man of the future. His feelings must be forged, his conscience, his character, his spirit. In him must be developed a more generous

conscience, a more revolutionary spirit- more advanced, newer. Where is he to come from but from the youth, where we find the raw material for the formation of future generations?

We have to start now to create that spirit, but there has not been much evidence of that spirit. We have such excellent raw material-a youth who have just accomplished the feat of eradicating illiteracy in one year. We should lose no time in making a great effort to create that communist spirit in the youth.

What happens very often and is depressing to behold? Let us take a look at a Rebel Youth. He is a young man who has a well-developed revolutionary spirit and conscience. But he is 18 years old and single. He is given employment in one of the ministries. There exists in that ministry a wage scale and suddenly, a boy of 17, or sometimes 16 or 18, and single is put to work, and because of the wage scale he starts earning 500 pesos a month because he was given an important position. Does this make good revolutionists? Does this create a communist spirit? No!

If later on he marries a girl who earns a good salary then between them they might well be earning 1,000 pesos a month. And as happens in many similar cases, what do we create through such a procedure? We create a citizen who becomes accustomed to receive more, much more, than he needs. And the socialist formula is that each person gives according to his work and receives according to his work and the classical communist formula is that each person gives according to his ability and receives according to his needs.

It would be very difficult to make a commun-

ist out of that young man who did not have those needs. It would be something else again if that young man had seven little brothers and sisters who had lost their father and mother and he had to support the whole family and he explained his situation. But if his parents are earning salaries and he has no other needs, are we not corrupting that young man? Well, if we don't corrupt him, are we not accustoming him to an income that is much higher than what he needs? This is not the way to form revolutionists. This is not the way to form communists. A greater revolutionary spirit must be created toward work, toward others, toward the whole people, toward society and toward life. This must be done and it must be done with youth.

Well, we have had certain problems. Salaries have been increased. More than satisfactory salaries have been paid to those in certain categories of technical work. But can it be called evidence of revolutionary spirit in the young men who are now in the secondary schools, those who took part in the literacy campaign, who will soon be in the universities and later, still young, perhaps only 20 and 22 years old and already having finished training as specialists, perhaps as surgeons or in some other specialized line of work, and who perhaps marry girls who studied, specialized and graduated with them-- is it evidence of revolutionary spirit for these couples to earn 1,600 pesos a month between them?

Is that revolutionary spirit? This is all right for those who have already graduated, including those who are at present specializing in the universities. But in all of this generation, in all these 60,000 holders of scholarships, are we or are we not going to start to create a truly revolutionary attitude, a higher attitude, a more generous and more revolutionary attitude toward society and toward life?

These are matters which truly worry us, and they are matters which we should sincerely begin to put into effect. And we should work to create a new society, a new generation without privileges, free of anti-social individualism; the generation that is going to live in abundance, where all will be able to have all their needs fulfilled as a result of the efforts and the labor of all.

What better conditions are there for accomplishing all this than the conditions surrounding this youth of ours? A youth which does not have to be concerned with their fathers' earnings, nor with the family income, nor with the number of brothers and sisters. A youth which by the mere fact that they are young, by the mere fact that they live in this country, by the mere fact that they want to improve themselves, to be useful to their nation, without worrying, I repeat, about their fathers' incomes nor their families' economic situation, receive scholarships, come to the capital or wherever it may be, go to study in the finest schools, live in the most comfortable mansions, are supplied with clothing, shoes, food, are given free medical attention, all the educational services, all the cultural services, all the recreational facilities, because we have made the effort, the people are making the necessary efforts so that our youth will not lack anything.

And this morning at a meeting of labor leaders, more than 300 houses in an old summer and vacation resort of the upper classes were turned over to the Executive Committee of the Cuban Con-

From the Toronto Daily Star, May 1st, 1962:

THE WORKERS, THE GOVERNMENT AND THE

EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA,

EXTEND THEIR BEST WISHES TO THE WORKERS AND
THE PEOPLE OF CANADA ON THE OCCASION OF THE
1st OF MAY, INTERNATIONAL WORKERS' DAY.

Americo Cruz, Cuban Ambassador to Canada.

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Eric Nicol

"MALICE IN BLUNDERLAND"

--"The time has come for direct negotiations with Canada with regard to her trade policies that assist Communist nations and thereby do great injury to the taxpayers of the United States." -- U.S. Senator Wayne Morse.

"The time has come", the Eagle said,
"To talk of many things;
Of wheat -- and ships -- and cigaroots --
Of Communists -- and kings.
And why the States are beiling hot --
And whether freedom rings."

"It's very hard," the Beaver sighed,
"To learn the shades of Red:
The Poles and Czechs and Yugoslavs
Are fit to buy our bread,
But Cubans and the Chinese
Would be better off dead."

"But wait a bit", the Taxpayers said,
"Before we have our chat;
For some of us are out of breath,
And all of us are fat!"
"No hurry!" said the Beaver.
They thanked him much for that.

"O Beaver dear," the Eagle cried,
"Where is your sense of smell?
It's not the Commies that we dread
But despots foul and fell
On off-shore islands. Which is why
You ought to loathe Fidel."

"What baffles me," the Eagle said,
"Is why you'd want to sell
Your goods to nasty Cubans who
The rest of us repel.
Do tell us, Mr. Beaver, please:
Why can't you hate Fidel?"

The Beaver dabbed an eye and spake:
"Our auld syne's very lang.
But there remains one point of which
I cannot get the hang:
If island despots bother you,
What DO you see in Chiang?"

"It's hard on us," the Taxpayers said,
And turned red, white and blue,
"Defending all the Free World. It's
A dismal thing to do!"
"The night is fine," the Beaver said,
"Do you admire the view?"

"It seems a shame", the Eagle wept,
"To leave us to our fate.
We brought you lovely missiles
That are barely out of date."
The Beaver then said nothing but
"The customers always rate."

"It was so kind of you to come!
We like you very well."
The Eagle blinked a chilly eye.
"We also think you're swell.
But will you please explain to us:
Why don't you hate Fidel?"

"I weep for you," the Eagle said.
"My sorrow words can't tell.
I shall not interfere, of course,
If you must go to hell.
I only mention this, dear friend:
You'd better hate Fidel."

federation of Workers for use by the workers. When I spoke with those workers who are the heads of families it was a fact of extraordinary significance for us -- right there near one of those schools where there are 5,000 young people studying, where formerly the ordinary citizen could not even walk -- When we spoke about all that that meant for the welfare of the nation, I asked them if any of them had members of their families there and saw that many of them raised their hands.

For us, it was a cause of great satisfaction to find that all the effort that was being made was worthwhile, and that if we had to go hungry so that the youth might grow strong and healthy we were willing to go hungry. And it was a great satisfaction for us to see that outburst of enthusiasm and approval. A feeling of satisfaction which increased later on when we stopped at a construction site where there were about 50 workers who, in the course of a conversation, we asked if they had a member of their family among the holders of scholarships.

And almost all those humble construction workers raised their hands because one had a son, another had two, another had a nephew, another a brother, another had his sweetheart studying in La Nacional, the school for former domestic workers, now studying typing and shorthand. And there was hardly one who did not have a member of his family or near relative there. It was the working class, that class which produces, that class which works, and that class which feels the revolution so deeply, and that sees very close at hand what the revolutions means. What better conditions than these, I say, in which to forge revolutionists, where the young people receive all because society gives it to them, because the working people gives it to them? And here they are going to study according to their ability and they are going to receive according to their needs."

As Dr. Castro continued, he established that the revolutionaries wished the youth to "better develop that true revolutionary spirit, that profound conviction of the true revolutionist who knows how to think, how to discuss matters, who has conviction and discipline, who has a new awareness, a new attitude toward life.

That is the type of revolutionist we want. That is the type of revolutionist that we want in the political organization of the revolution. That type of man who can set an example. That nucleus which will have authority, not merely because it is a nucleus but rather because it sets the example; which has authority not just because they impose it on someone but rather because everyone recognizes it. Because a lazy person who wants to pass as a revolutionist will not have anyone's respect. The privileged person who wants to pass as a revolutionist will not gain anyone's respect. And that is why it is necessary to win the authority which example and conduct bring. That is what the nucleus will have to be."

The Cuban Prime Minister stated that it should be the highest honor to the young to belong to the young people's organization of the revolution, and then concluded...

"No privileges should be forthcoming! A war against privilege! War against all manifestations of weakness, against all self-seeking!

The revolution has integrated its political leadership. The revolution has advanced in the field of organization. Now we should continue forward like an arrow shot toward the future. We must work well, select the best. We must put an end to these minor matters; to this type of hollow, vain and useless sectarianism. War against that sectarianism which leads to privilege, which leads into the swamp.

Let us get out of that filthy swamp, that mistaken sectarianism, and let us begin, companion-
as and companioneros, let us begin to do what history
expects of us, what the nation expects of us,
what America expects of us, what the world expects
of us -- with true revolutionary spirit, with a
truly new spirit, with a truly creative spirit,
in which the touchstone for every man and woman
of the nation shall be merit, shall be the spirit
of sacrifice, shall be the revolutionary conscie-
nce, shall be love of the revolution.

Patria o Muerte! Venceremos!

FROM OTTAWA REPORT, by NDP-CCF MP Frank Howard,
appearing in the April 1962 Western Pulp and Paper
Worker.

Mr. Howard is commenting on the 6th meeting of
the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group,
and the pressure that developed in its sessions
on the Canadian members to take a more vigorous
anti-Cuban position. He ridicules fears that tiny
Cuba constitutes a military threat against the US,
writing:

"The real reason for the attitude of the United
States toward Cuba is one based upon economic
questions. Inevitably this comes out when the
matter is pressed. The usual answer given, after
the military ones have been exhausted and put
aside, is that Fidel Castro expropriated millions
of dollars worth of United States corporate wealth
when he took over the government from Batista. I
don't want to get into the argument as to whether
or not he felt justified in so doing, I merely
want to re-emphasize that this is the true and
real reason for the intense U.S. desire to regain
control in Cuba."

"WE WILL OVERCOME ALL INJUSTICES—"

The following are excerpts from a major speech made by Dr. Fidel Castro on March 26 dealing with problems that have arisen in the process of unifying the forces of the revolution in the Integrated Revolutionary Organization (ORI).

"To begin with, I would like to refer to a saying of Lenin, that the attitude, that is the seriousness of purpose, of a revolutionary party is measured basically by the attitude it takes towards its own errors. And in the same way, our seriousness of purpose as revolutionists and as members of the government will be measured by the attitude we take toward our own errors. ...

"What does this mean? This means that a great qualitative change had taken place in the masses: they had become revolutionary masses. That is a positive fact, an undeniable fact. Whoever doesn't see it that way is nearsighted. Whoever doesn't see it that way is blind. Whoever doesn't see it that way is simply an idiot.

"Then, if that was a truth which was self-evident, could we then apply methods which were applicable to other conditions? ... Could we turn those methods for the selection of companeros for different administrative posts into a system? We could not turn those methods into a system! ...

"And we turned certain methods into a system and fell into a frightful sectarianism. ...

"We often asked ourselves: What could be the reason? Where lies the reason for that implacable,

untiring, systematic, sectarian spirit, which is found everywhere, which is found on all levels, which is found wherever one goes? What are the causes, the roots of this sectarian spirit? . . .

At times one could think: Well, this is the policy of a group; this is the policy of a party; there seem to be many who are responsible for this. Of course, we have all been responsible, are responsible, in some degree or other . . .

Others worked at tasks related to the formation of the party. And the party was taking shape, rather the ORI (Integrated Revolutionary Organizations) was taking shape. The ORI was being integrated. But were we really forming a true Marxist party? Were we really constructing a true vanguard of the working class? Were we really integrating the revolutionary forces? We were not integrating the revolutionary forces. We were not organizing a party. We were organizing or creating or making a straitjacket, a yoke, companeros. We were not furthering a free association of revolutionists, rather we were forming an army of tamed and submissive revolutionists.

#

We reached the conclusion, we were all convinced that companionero Anibal Escalante, abusing the confidence put in him, pursued a non-Marxist policy from his post as secretary in charge of organization, followed a policy which departed from Leninist norms regarding the organization of a workers' vanguard party, and that he tried to organize an apparatus to pursue personal ends.

We believe that companero Anibal Escalante has

had a lot to do with the conversion of sectarianism into a system, with the conversion of sectarianism into a virus, into a veritable disease during this process.

Companero Anibal Escalante is the one responsible for having promoted the sectarian spirit to its highest possible level, of having promoted that sectarian spirit for personal reasons, for the purpose of establishing an organization which he controlled. He is the one responsible for introducing, moreover, within that organization a series of methods which were leading to the creation not of a party--as we were saying--but rather of a tyranny, of a straitjacket.

We believe that Anibal Escalante's actions in these matters were not the product of oversight nor that they were unconscious, but rather that they were deliberate and conscious. ...

He was creating conditions and giving instructions which tended to convert that apparatus, not into the apparatus of the workers' vanguard, but rather into a nest of privilege, into one which tolerated favoritism, into a system of immunities and favors.

#

And similarly how many other things had like origins? Like those who, in a high fever after having barely read a little Marxist book, or having read it before and not having understood it, went about saying that History Will Absolve Me (Castro's defense speech at 1953 trial for attack on Moncado Barracks) was a reactionary document.

History Will Absolve Me does not have to be read in the schools for revolutionary instruction. It is not a Marxist classic. It is the expression of a developing mind, of a series of ideas which have been a constant concern of revolutionists. And it is a living denunciation made when that denunciation had to be made, at the risk of one's life.

...
And there was another one who said that the attack on the Moncada Barracks had been a mistake.

...
What is at issue in the matter of the Moncada Barracks and the Granma are not the deeds but the line, the correct line, the line of armed struggle; not the corrupt political line, the electioneering line, but the line of armed struggle against the Batista tyranny, a line which history proved to be the correct one.

Is it possible to be so deaf, so blind, so nearsighted and so idiotic as to ignore the lessons of history, and to be unable to draw the lessons which are to be drawn from history? . . .

We believe that the masses are the makers of history; they are the architects of history. Now, history may be made, but it cannot be falsified. It may be made but it cannot be rewritten. There is only one history, and you cannot write it according to your subjective wishes. And all such histories must be done away with to make way for all real history, all true history.

Very well, then. How could such things happen in a party? There you have that matter which has been discussed so much, the problem of the cult of personality. Perhaps an example of what we, or at least of what I, understand as the cult of personality could serve as the subject of a good les-

son for the political instructors to give the troops and the principals to give in the schools.

We waged a war, we led it, we won it, and there are no general's stars on our shoulders and no medals hang from our chests. And the first law which we proposed when we assumed governmental power prohibited the erection of statues-- these problems related to the cult of personality were not discussed as much then as they are now-- but out of deep conviction we proposed prohibiting the erection of statues of living persons, the naming of streets after living persons and, what is more, that the placing of our portraits in government offices be prohibited by law. This we did from deep conviction, from deep revolutionary conviction. Was this demogogy? No. We acted this way from profound revolutionary conviction.

But I ask myself the following question ; Why have we been discussing a problem so much which was not our problem but the Soviet Union's? All right. We should be well informed. We should inform, discuss, if they are problems which have to do with the experience of Marxism, but we don't have to turn it into the central theme of our discussions.

..... WHAT DOES KENNEDY WANT CUBA TO DO?

A stimulating article written by Charles Biesick, Manitoba editor of the weekly Saskatchewan Commonwealth.

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A CATHOLIC SPEAKS ON CUBA

by Professor Leslie Dewart

15 cents

Fair Play for Cuba Committee--648a Yonge St., Toronto

For we have much more important things to discuss and this means that we are doing something like the following: that we are waging a campaign against the bubonic plague when, instead of the bubonic plague, there is malaria and poliomyelitis. It is true we don't want to be attacked by the bubonic plague, and we should be vaccinated against it and take the necessary measures and, in addition, we should know what the bubonic plague is. But when we have to fight we should fight against malaria and poliomyelitis which are the actual and present ills.

How did this affect the political organization of the revolution? Very simply, companeros. We were not creating an organization; I already said that we were preparing a yoke, a straitjacket. I'm going to go a little farther: we were creating a mere shell of an organization. How? The masses had not been integrated. We speak here of the Integrated Revolutionary Organizations. It was an organization composed of the militants of the Partido Socialista Popular.

The rest of the organizations, the Student Directorate, the 26th of July, what were they? Were they organizations which had an old organized membership? No. They were organizations which had great mass support, they had an overwhelming mass support. That is what the 26th of July was; that is what the other organizations were. They enjoyed great prestige, great popularity. These people were not organized into an organization.

If we are going to form an organization, an integration, and we don't integrate the masses, we will not be integrating anything; we will be falling into a sectarianism like that we fell into.

Then how were the nuclei (units of ORI) formed? I'm going to tell you how. In every province the general secretary of the PSP was made general secretary of the ORI; in all the nuclei, the general secretary of the PSP was made general secretary of the ORI; in every municipality, the general secretary of the PSP was made general secretary of the ORI; in every nucleus, the general secretary - the member of the PSP - was made general secretary of the nucleus. Is that what you call integration? Companero Anibal Escalante is responsible for that policy.

NDP-CCF MLA COX Heads Vigorous Vancouver FPCC

The Vancouver chapter of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee has held its annual membership meeting for the election of officers for the coming year. Cedric Cox, CCF-NDP member in the provincial legislature for Burnaby heads the chapter as chairman. He has the support of a strong and enthusiastic committee.

Fred McNeil, prominent activist in Vancouver trade union circles, is vice-chairman. Ken Orchard, who following his return from a tour of Cuba and Central America has been speaking to many interested audiences, is secretary. Treasurer Rod Stewart is active in Unitarian circles. Harold Rittberg, vice-president of Vancouver Center NDP and particularly busy now as NDP election campaign director, is the chapter's publicity director. Literature agent is energetic New Democratic Youth leader Bud Bennett, while Vera McKenzie, well known as a folk singer, is membership secretary.

Following a brief financial and organizational report Mr. Orchard gave a 1½ hour report on his tour which he illustrated with slides. The 35 persons present participated in a lively question and discussion period.

What resulted from this: what consequences did it have? All that we have done to fight against anti-communism, the ideological struggle, the incessant explaining that slowly destroyed anti-communism --for anti-communism, as we ourselves have said, engendered sectarianism in its turn, because the isolated, harassed Marxist-Leninists tended to protect themselves closely in their own organization, to shut themselves up within their organization...

Very well, then, that sectarianism fosters anti-communism anew. What Marxist-Leninist mind could think of employing--when the revolution is in power-- the methods employed when Marxism-Leninism was not in power, when it was completely surrounded and isolated? To isolate oneself from the masses when one is in power-- that is madness. It is another matter to be isolated by the ruling classes, by the exploiters, when the latifundistas (great landowners) and the imperialists are in power; but to be divorced from the masses when the workers, the campesinos, when the working class is in power, is a crime. Then sectarianism becomes counter-revolutionary because it weakens and harms the revolution...

A policy based on principles, a policy based on correct methods offers guarantees and security to all revolutionists.

It is not a policy which is based on the acceptance of mine or another's friends. It is not a policy based on personal friendships. It is not a policy based on unconditional followers. It is not a policy based on tamed or submissive people. No! A Marxist-Leninist party, which is the vanguard of the working class, is an association of free revolutionists wherein all the revolutionists follow a policy based on methods and principles, which of-

fers equal guarantees to all, to whoever works, to whoever fulfills his responsibilities. A policy which offers guarantees to all against injustice, against abuse of power, against discrimination, against mistreatment, so that all may feel that they are equally guaranteed, the new as well as the old.

#

If we do the same on all levels it will strengthen us, it will make our revolution more powerful. It will make the people's faith in the revolutionary leadership firmer. It will make the faith of all the revolutionists of the world in us greater. It will make the faith of all the revolutionary organizations of Latin America in the Cuban Revolution greater. Why? Because the fact that we know how to make corrections will give the Cuban Revolution prestige. It will give the Cuban Revolution all the strength which organizations have when they know how to purify themselves of evils, when they know how to overcome their difficulties.

Rest assured, companeros, that by doing this our revolution will be invincible. Rest assured, companeors, that by doing this there will be no force in the world which will be able to defeat our revolution, and I repeat here what I said when we arrived at the capital of the Republic: "We have overcome our own obstacles. No enemies but our selves, but our errors remain. Only our own errors will be able to destroy this revolution!"

I repeat it today, but I add that there will be no error which we will not oppose and that therefore there will be no error which will be able to destroy the revolution! There will be no errors which will not be overcome, and that is why our revolution will be invincible.

A Cdn Visitor Returns

"I've heard him about three times, but it gets more interesting each meeting.... I never get tired of hearing about Cuba," remarked one young socialist as he listened to Ken Orchard, a 21 year old worker recently returned from a two month tour of Cuba and Central America.

Orchard has worked continuously, since his return, to tell people in B. C. the truth about Cuba. He has held both meetings and study classes, attempting to get the widest and most thorough coverage of his Latin American experience. The public meeting at the League for Socialist Action Hall was made more colorful and interesting by a showing of the slides taken by Alex Kucher who had also been to Cuba. Mr. Kucher, a member of the Canadian-Cuban Friendship Committee, had graciously come to the aid of Orchard when his own slides failed to arrive in time for the meeting.

Orchard was able to deal most fully, however with his observations on this trip when he lead a series of three Wednesday night study classes, also at the LSA hall, on the problems of Latin America, their political implications, and on the history of the Cuban revolution.

The young and interested audience discussed the issues raised with interest and understanding.

Ken spent many long hours preparing press releases, hoping to counter-act the vicious and untrue reports of Cuba in the Vancouver press and was rewarded by having several good radio interviews. A wide Vancouver audience was reached when Orchard had two quarter hour interviews with popular roving radio reporter Jack Webster.

Toronto NDPers interested

The April Toronto-Spadina New Democratic Party membership meeting took time out from election campaign preparations to hear a talk about Cuba and its significance in the struggle for a new Canada. The speaker, who illustrated her address with many momentos of her recent visit to Cuba was Tony Foster, vice president of the Ontario New Democratic Party Youth. Her comments were supplemented by Dick Princep, a member of the club who had just returned from a vacation in Cuba.

Tony has also given a vivid picture of her experiences to the East End and the West End Toronto New Democratic Youth clubs. Along with Fair Play National Chairman Vernel Olson, she appeared before the Hamilton Press Club.

The Toronto chapter has sent out a mailing to home and school clubs, social and political groups of all types, offering Miss Foster as a speaker at one of their future affairs.

NOUVELLES DE CUBA, NEWS FROM CUBA, that's the title of a printed news magazine published each month by the Embassy of Cuba in Canada. It's in both French and English and is obtainable free upon request to the Embassy.

It is certainly worth your writing to receive it on a regular basis. The latest issue contains a very wide and interesting assortment of material. There is an important article, a condensation of one by Dr. Rodriguez, president of INRA, on university reform. There is a news round-up which contains data on plans and developments in the Cuban economy.

Want the times of the English or French Radio Havana short wave broadcasts? They are all here. Write for your copy to the Cuban Embassy
112 Sherwood Drive, Ottawa.

CUBA'S reply to "Punte del Este" and the "Organiza-
tion of American States"--addressed to the peop-
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SUMMER

by Vernel Olson, Chairman

1963

The past six months has seen stepped-up activity of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee. In December the Toronto chapter held its annual meeting consisting of reports on the year's activities a summary of developments in the Cuban Revolution, and election of officers.

To start the New Year off, two prominent members of the Committee were invited by the Cuban Embassy in Ottawa to visit Cuba for the January 2nd celebrations. Cedric Cox, MLA for the NDP from British Columbia, and chairman of the Vancouver chapter spent three weeks in Cuba, and Dick Fidler, Chairman of the University of Toronto campus group and member of the executive of the Toronto chapter was there for the month of January.

As a result of these invitations the Canadian people obtained fresh news of the current situation in Cuba. Cedric spoke to several meetings in B.C. and reached several hundred people. In Toronto, Dick also spoke to several meetings, including church and campus groups as well as an FPCC sponsored meeting. He subsequently spoke to several meetings in the U.S., reported separately in this bulletin.

The climax of committee activities following the invitation was the printing of the pamphlet "Four Canadians Who Saw Cuba", containing contributions by

Cedric Cox and Dick Fidler, as well as two other contributions. A copy of this pamphlet was sent to all paid-up members of the committee.

The initial press run was 3,500 copies, but the printer was instructed to hold the type for two or three weeks. It soon became obvious that our original estimate was too conservative. Within a month the 3,500 copies were exhausted and orders remained unfilled. An additional 2,000 have now been delivered and as of this date half of these are sold. At the present rate of sales, there will be no more "Four Canadians Who Saw Cuba" by the time summer is out.

The excellent sales of the pamphlet are due to an aggressive policy by our salesmen and saleswomen. Seven hundred copies were sold, for example, on the street in front of the massive NDP election rally for T.C. Douglas in April. The Vancouver chapter up to now has ordered 650 and have indicated that they will probably need more pamphlets. Ads were placed in the NATIONAL GUARDIAN and the Sask. COMMONWEALTH and as a result the pamphlet has been ordered from all parts of the country, including the U.S. The response from the prairie provinces, especially from Sask., has been phenomenal. The biggest response came as a result of a review of the pamphlet in the COMMONWEALTH by Charles Biesick, one of the contributors to the pamphlet, and an associate editor of the COMMONWEALTH.

The committee has also translated and published an important speech by Fidel Castro which we titled "Cuba's Agrarian Reform". Three thousand copies of this pamphlet were printed and only 300 copies remain unsold. We also reprinted and published as a pamphlet two articles by Prof. Maurice Zeitlin which appeared in The NATION last October and November.

Enclosed is your copy of the newest reprint, titled "A Latin American Speaks to North Americans", by Carlos Fuentes. It is written in the form of an Open Letter to the North American people. In his letter Fuentes presents a simple but powerful case for the coming Latin American Revolution of which the Cuban Revolution is but the advance guard.

Income and Expense Statement for January 1, 1962-
January 31, 1963.

Income

Literature	123.37
Membership	304.50
Donations	455.72
Donation from Toronto Chapter	613.43/1
	<u>1,497.02</u>

Expenses

Office Rent	304.00
Stationery	278.77/2
Postage & Enve- lopes	78.34
Publication	275.00/3
Literature	128.31
Miscellaneous	131.28
	<u>1,195.70</u>

Income 1,497.02
Expenses 1,195.70

Net income after expenses \$301.32
Balance on Hand January 1, 1962 14.03
Net Income in 1962 301.32
Balance on hand January 30, 1963 315.35

Footnotes: /1 includes collections at meetings, profits from social affairs and banquets.
/2 includes cost of mimeographed bulletins and pamphlets.
/3 printing bill for Agrarian Reform pamphlet.

THE "THREAT" OF A REVOLUTIONARY IDEA

We have stubbornly retained the notion that the "threat" which Cuba represented for the monied interests of this continent was not bombs and sabotage but a revolutionary idea, a "threat" which not even travel restrictions can contain. This notion has just recently been verified for us. Some pamphlets on Cuba were recently ordered by ALL POINTS OF VIEW, The Bibliographic Book Service, P.O. Box 321, San Antonio 6, Texas. The shipment was intercepted at point of entry in Chicago and a letter sent to the addressee. The addressee's reply to the postal authorities is reproduced here and is, we believe, self explanatory.

"Dear Sir: We have received your card stating that you are holding an unsealed mail matter addressed to us from a foreign country, which cannot be delivered to us unless we have subscribed to it, or otherwise want it, because the Secretary of the Treasury has determined some of this mail to be Communist political propaganda. The mail you refer to is a shipment of books and pamphlets from the Fair Play for Cuba Committee in Toronto; and you list two speeches by Dr. Fidel Castro, Prime Minister of Cuba, which are considered Communist political propaganda.

"We object to all governmental censorship of political ideas. Moreover, the whole idea behind our book service is that the truth about any subject cannot be found by examining only one point of view or isolated facts. One who desires to approach as near as possible to the truth must take into consideration all basic facts and all points of view.

"We are returning your card with the appropriate spaces checked. Please deliver to us without further delay the mail you are holding. In the future, please deliver to us all mail addressed to us, regardless of the political ideas expressed therein.

Sincerely yours, John W. Stanford"

Editors Note: According to reports from The Bibliographic Book Service, the postal authorities apparently retained one copy each of all material, without notifying the addressee.

DEFEND THE CUBAN REVOL- UTION!

FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA COMMITTEE
BULLETIN
SUMMER 1966

EXCERPTS FROM A SPEECH BY RAUL CASTRO AT THE FUNERAL OF THE MURDERED CUBAN SENTRY

"And we can tell them our reason as follows: We do not want, ever -- as you, the people say -- to reconcile ourselves with imperialism; not even, as Fidel has already declared, in a so-called peace limited to the Caribbean, because we shall never accept such a reconciliation while Santo Domingo is under U.S. occupation, while South Vietnam is under occupation, while North Vietnam is under attack!"

"We do not want a selfish peace, for ourselves alone, because that would not only be an opportunist and negative attitude of which our people are incapable, but because we know that it would be transitory, and that at the first opportunity they would try to crush us."

Among other comments he made were the following.

"We are in complete agreement as to the inevitability of the revolution in Latin America. They speak of a 'democratic revolution', a few simple reformist concessions. We speak of a genuine revolution, the kind we have made in Cuba, which is undoubtedly just the kind of revolution that our Latin American brothers will make.

"Our response to the many imperialist aggressions will not be just for effect, but will be effective; we will not make a lot of noise, but the time will come when we will be able to contemplate the results of our actions as a whole. There is nothing new in what we are saying: we are merely reiterating here today, in the face of this criminal and cowardly deed, that we will redouble our efforts according to our ability, to aid all the fighting liberation movements of the three continents, because that is the Achilles heel of U.S. imperialism"

FPCC RALLIES TO PROTEST U.S. PROVOCATIONS

The Fair Play for Cuba Committee, in its tradition of defence of the Cuban Revolution, responded immediately to the State of Alert proclaimed by the leaders of the Cuban State.

A protest demonstration was held in front of the U.S. consulate in downtown Toronto on June 4. Despite the short notice, some 70 supporters of the committee assembled at the new city hall and marched on the consulate with placards demanding that the U.S. withdraw from Guantanamo base and that it keep its hands off the Cuban people. Two powerful banners expressing solidarity with the Cuban people were displayed by supporters of the Portuguese and Spanish Canadian Democratic Associations.

The action was precipitated by a telegram from the National Committee of the Young Communists of Cuba. Preceding the demonstration a press release was issued alarming the Canadian people to the implications of the provocations of the U.S. State Department. All statements are reproduced here for your better understanding of the situation.

press release

June 2, 1966

The Fair Play for Cuba Committee has just received an emergency telegram from Cuba.

In the name of the youth of Cuba, the telegram appeals for volunteers to fight side by side with the Cuban people should the provocative declarations emanating from Washington take on the form of a destructive and bloody invasion of that long harassed island republic.

The Committee has issued an alert to all who defend the right of small nations such as Cuba to determine their own forms of government, undeterred by bigger powers such as the United States of America. All Canadians should be prepared on an emergency basis to protest any further provocations by the U.S. State Department that threaten not only the lives of the entire peoples of Cuba but the peoples of the whole world with a nuclear disaster. It expresses its support of the idea that Canadians should be prepared, as they have been in the past to volunteer their services in the defence of freedom anywhere -- and in this case, on the shores of Cuba. FPCC is preparing to act along the lines of the Cuban appeal.

TELEGRAM

To Fair Play for Cuba Committee

The false declaration of the U.S. State Department protesting the "intrusion" of six Cuban soldiers into the Guantanamo base that the Americans occupy in Cuba is as treacherous and bare-

faced a lie as is their version of the assassination of the Cuban soldier which occurred on the 21st May. By the imperialists making these declarations they prove they know nothing about our people and their determination to fight any and all forms of aggression. Far from permitting themselves to be terrorized by blackmail, threats, aggressions and nonsense, the Cuban people are preparing to combat imperialism unflinchingly. In case the feared attack occurs we ask all partisans of freedom and democracy to protest the aggression and the use of Guantanamo as a base by the U.S. armed forces against the will of the Cuban people.

As of now we are appealing for volunteers from all countries to fight fearlessly and courageously against the intended imperialist aggression in Cuba.

Patria o muerte!. Venceremos!
(Fatherland or Death! We Shall Win!)

From the National Committee of Young Communists.

SPEECH TO DEMONSTRATION

Given by David Middleton
U.S. Consulate, Toronto
Saturday, June 4, 1966

We have received an appeal from the young people of Cuba.

In this appeal they tell us of the killing of one of their countrymen outside of the base at Guantanamo and they tell us of the false stories being put out by the Johnson government.

More important, they tell us of their fears of what these events mean for their revolution. And they ask us for our help.

If these were isolated events we might question

their concern. But look at recent events.

We have seen the fall of the Jagan government, the betrayal of Ben Bella and of Kwame Nkrumah, the emasculation of the Indonesian government, the suppression of the Dominican People.

In other words, there is a pattern evolving, of small governments not subservient to Johnson's plan of things.

And it is not just that the governments change. It is the price the people pay. Massacres and legal murders still continuing in the Congo, 200,000 dead in Indonesia.

It is against these events that we must assess the warning from Cuba.

And that is why we are here. To bring attention to the crime that has already been committed -- the brutal death of this Cuban soldier -- and to try to ward off whatever greater crime may be planned.

There is much brave talk against fascism today. Church and civic leaders speak out against events of twenty years ago. But the men doing the killing today sit in Washington. Their power is enormous and their sycophants are legion.

Who will speak against them?

TORONTO EVENTS

JULY 26 -- a picnic following the pattern of last years' successful outing is projected to celebrate this historic date. It will be held on July 24 and there will be swimming, boating, games -- bring the whole family!

ANNUAL BANQUET -- We are making efforts now to get Paul Sweezy, co-editor of Monthly Review to be our feature speaker -- watch for more news!

NATIONAL ROUNDUP

We regret to inform you that Vernal Olson, has resigned from his position as national Chairman, for personal reasons. Vern, who has been chairman ever since the founding of the Committee has been one of the main stays of Fair Play. His organizational work as well as the many speeches and articles on behalf of the Cuban Revolution made him "Mr. Cuba" for Canada and indeed, internationally. We are sorry to see him leave this position, but we are happy to still have the benefit of his experience on the Executive.

The pro-tem Chairman until November will be Mr. Hans Modlich. Hans was one of the leaders of the Student Tour to Cuba in 1964. A member of FPCC for four years, he was Chairman of the Student Committee on Cuban Affairs at the University of Toronto and has just graduated from engineering at U of T.

The Toronto Daily Star's roving reporter in Latin America, Jack Scott has just completed a series of seven articles on his third visit to Cuba. Jack Scott is a familiar name to Fair Players from his record selling pamphlet "JACK SCOTT TAKES A SECOND LOOK AT CUBA". We are attempting to reproduce some of these articles, however, we are presently having copyright difficulties.

SOCIALISM AND MAN — We are having a very good response with our latest pamphlet. It is now being carried in five bookstores in Toronto and a number in Vancouver. Orders have come in from the U.S.A. and England, and of course our entire membership has been sent a copy. We have had a good response selling at various meetings and demonstrations. What about you? Why don't you take advantage of our special bulk offer (four for \$1) and sell to your friends or at special events in your city?

NEW PAMPHLET -- work is going ahead on the pamphlet WOMEN IN CUBA. This pamphlet has been derived from a speech given by Joan Newbigging last fall. The interest shown by the audience promised a good reception for a more thorough study on this subject.

NOTE: We are unable to send our members the issue of Granma with the speech made at the Tri-Continental Congress. We were not able to get sufficient quantities for a general mailing.

VANCOUVER REPORT

The Vancouver Chapter of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee held its annual general meeting on April 24. Reports from outgoing officers were received and a new executive was elected.

Cedric Cox, well known spokesman and chairman of FPCC in Vancouver stepped down from his position at this time. His final remarks were that if at any time, the Cuban Revolution was in danger, the committee could count on his support.

Newly elected chairman is Bob Bastien. Bob attended the January 1965, 6th Anniversary celebrations of the Cuban Revolution in Havana as a delegate from our Committee. He has been an active executive member of the Committee for several years. In April and May this year Bob spent four weeks in the People's Republic of China as a private tourist -- investigating social conditions there and comparing them with the advances being made in Cuba.

Phil Courneyeur -- who has been Committee secretary for the past three years -- was re-elected to the post. Other executive members are Larry Nozaki, Joyce Meissenheimer and Bill Johnson who was an active member of the Student Committee on Cuban Affairs at the University of British Columbia.

The visit to Vancouver last November, of Dr. Americo Cruz, Cuban Ambassador to Canada, indicated the strong support and friendship existing here. Receptions and meetings for Dr. Cruz were attended by over 1,000 persons -- including a meeting at UBC.

The FPCC banquet was filled to over-capacity with some 160 people present. Speakers included Dorothy Steeves (National Committee member of the New Democratic Party) Cedric Cox, Phil Courneyeur, and of course, Dr. Cruz.

Our major work remains the distribution of FPCC publications -- and in this connection we are very pleased and encouraged by the publication of Che Guevara's Socialism and Man. It is a very worthwhile contribution to the literature on the thinking of Cuba's revolutionary leaders.

This fall we are considering a number of projects to bring the most up-to-date information and evaluation of Cuban events to people in Vancouver. We are looking forward to our future activities and wish to extend the greetings of our members and supporters to all friends of the Cuban Revolution in Canada.

MORE FACTS ON THE KILLING of CUBAN SENTRY

(Reprinted from WORLD OUTLOOK, a labor press service.
No. 20, June 17, 1966)

The May 29 issue of the English edition of Granma the official organ of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, provides further details about the killing of Luis Ramirez Lopez, the Cuban sentry on duty at the Guantanamo frontier, which shows how brazenly the State Department lied about the circumstances of the murder.

According to the State Department, "on May 21, a-

bout 7:10 p.m., an armed Cuban soldier was observed within the boundaries of Guantanamo Naval Base. A warning shot, fired by a U.S. guard, was ignored by the Cuban. When the infiltrator ignored the warning shot, a second shot was fired, wounding the Cuban."

Then the "intruder" although wounded, leaped over the fence and escaped.

With sketches and photographs, Granma shows how ridiculous this version is.

Along the perimeter of the Naval Base, the Americans put up a high wire fence. This is topped with barbed wire. Within the fence they planted a mine field. Between the mine field and the fence they left room for a roadway and that is patrolled by trucks or jeeps loaded with armed troops.

Because they feared provocations, the Cubans cleared a wide area on their side of the American fence. They then planted a heavy row of cactus. This is followed by three barbed wire fences. The area in between the three fences is filled with a tangle of barbed wire. Beyond this the Cuban sentries are posted in block houses.

The post where Ramirez was stationed is on a hill overlooking all these barriers.

Ramirez was shot through the back. The bullet entered near the top of the right lung, traveled upward and came out at the front of the neck, piercing the aortic arch. He died within minutes. Two other sentries, on duty with him, at once notified Frontier Battalion Headquarters.

The trajectory of the shot showed that it was fired from near the American patrol road. As previously reported (see World Outlook June 10) a number of journalists who visited the scene of the murder, were completely convinced that the American

version was a lie.

Faced with the impossibility of explaining (1) why a lone Cuban soldier would want to go inside the heavily guarded Naval Base, (2) how, after being wounded, he could scale all the barriers before dying (3) how the shot could have ranged upward if it was fired as claimed by the State Department, Washington reacted in typical fashion, it escalated the size of the lie.

The Pentagon claimed that six Cuban soldiers had entered Guantanamo on May 23. According to the Pentagon, they opened fire against American sentries. The sentries returned the fire. The Cubans then fled.

The only tangible fact in this ghostlike sequence is that the story was released to the press on May 27, the day following the visit of thirty journalists from sixteen countries to the scene of the murder of Luis Ramirez Lopez.

In an effort to add force to this "counter-propaganda," Dean Rusk even said May 27 that the U.S. government would "protest" the "invasion" by the mysterious six Cubans. Rusk told a press conference that "the Cubans must stop these incidents by remaining outside the zone. It will be better for all concerned."

It was the glaringly provocative nature of this move by the State Department that led the Cuban government to at once call a state of alert and to order the "adoption of all necessary measures for moving immediately into a State of Combat Alarm if circumstances so require."

JOIN NOW!

CUBA NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!

ARE YOU BREAKING YOUR LINK WITH US? To many of our members this question must be familiar by now. Fair Play is continuing its worthwhile activities to publicize factual information about Cuba, information that is not generally available to the Canadian public from any other source. Also the need to defend the Cuban Revolution against U.S. aggression has by no means lessened -- on the contrary to judge by the recent developments in Guantanamo, and generally by the steady escalation of the war in Vietnam, Johnson may well want to spread the war to China or Cuba. Well, it's our job to be informed -- to be ready to act! **RENEW NOW!** and invite your friends to **JOIN NOW!**

ADULTS \$3.00 STUDENTS \$1.50



TORONTO: 165 Spadina Ave. Room 30